

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT KECH, Karlshorst

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SOURCE []

1. KECH is a Russian service located in the Russian compound at Karlshorst at Rheinsteinstrasse 17. It is responsible for:
 - a) all building and road construction
 - b) all repairs on buildings and roads
 - c) maintenance of Russian residences and offices, including plumbing, heating, electricity, etc.
2. KECH, Karlshorst, is under KEO, Potsdam. The latter was formerly located in Pankow; it supervises a number of KECH offices throughout the Russian Zone.
3. The Karlshorst office is headed by Lt. Col. (fnu) Besedin, a personal friend of Marshal Chuikov, to whom he reports once a day. There is no intermediary authority between the two.
4. Besedin is a member of the CPSU, a very ambitious and loyal Communist.

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5. The Karlshorst office of KECH employs about 80 Russians, approximately 50 of whom are women. Besedin's deputy is (fnu) Barishnikov who is in charge of electrical engineering. (fnu) Ilina, a woman, is next in rank, in charge of heating installations. (fnu) Shuk is in charge of construction and directly responsible to Besedin. The KECH warehouse at Grafenauer Weg 120 is supervised by (fnu) Shavirin. These persons constitute the higher staff of the Technical Department of KECH.

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There is also a commercial department.

6. The Repair Department is staffed by about 110 Germans. Richard Kupsch is the German chief of the group. The repair crews are stationed at the Grafenauer Weg warehouse.
7. KECH uses not only its own German and Russian personnel, but also the manpower and staff of the East Berlin Magistrat Construction Office, Karlshorst branch.
8. Besedin is also in charge of the large motor pool in the Karlshorst compound. The pool is near the Pionierkaserne complex, directly behind Chuikov's office. Cars and trucks from it are allotted to Russian services in Karlshorst. The motor pool measures about 800 by 400 meters. If a service desires a car, it calls the commandant of that one of the three residential sectors of the compound in which the service is located. The commandant relays the request to Besedin, who orders the vehicle from the pool. This is not one of the normal functions of the KECH office.

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